GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1412
ANSWERED ON:27.11.2001
MAINTENANCE OF SHAKTI STHAL AND OTHER SAMADHIS
RENUKA CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned `Centre turns a blind eye to Shakti Sthal upkeep` appearing in `The Hindu` dated October 30,2001 regarding the activities of anti-social elements and insanitary conditions near Samadhi area;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein;

(c) the amount allocated and spent on the maintenance of `Shakti Sthal` and other Samadhis of national leaders on the banks of river Yamuna and elsewhere in Delhi; and

(d) the steps taken for proper maintenance of Shakti Sthal and other Samadhis?

Answer

MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT & POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir. However, the news-item is not based on facts.

(c): There is no separate allocation of funds for maintenance of Samadhis. An amount of Rs.3.40 crores was spent on maintenance of various Samadhis in Delhi during the year 2000-2001.

(d): All out efforts are being made to maintain various Samadhis and surrounding environment in a befitting manner.